This case has been carefully reviewed and analyzed in view of the Office

Action dated 8 November 2005. Responsive to that Office Action, Claims 1, 3,

and 5 have been further amended for prosecution with the other pending Claims.

It is believed that with such amendment of Claims, there is a further clarification

of their recitations.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. §

102(b) as being anticipated by the Guisinger reference. The Examiner also

rejected Claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Guisinger in

view of the Cullison reference. In setting forth the latter rejection, the Examiner

acknowledged that Guisinger fails to disclose an overload protective circuit

connected to both the logic IC and transformer for shutting down the logic IC

responsive to an overload. The Examiner, however, cited Cullison for disclosing

such feature and concluded that it would have been obvious to a person of

ordinary skill in the art to have incorporated as much into the Guisinger controller

to ensure safe shutdown in the event of an overload condition.

As for the remaining Claims 5 and 6, the Examiner allowed Claim 6. The

Examiner merely objected to Claim 5 for being dependent upon a rejected base

claim, and indicated that this Claim too would be allowable if rewritten in

independent form to include all of the limitations of the base and any intervening

claims. Accordingly, Claim 5 is now amended to independent form, incorporating

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the subject matter of Claim 1 from which it had depended. It is believed, therefore, that Claim 5 is also now in allowable form.

Each of the independent Claims 1 and 3 has also been amended to include among the combination of features recited therein "a plurality of protective circuits coupled to the transformer and logic integrated circuit." As these independent Claims 1 and 3 also more clearly recite, "at least one of the protective circuits ... [is] operable to shut down the logic integrated circuit responsive to an operational condition of the transformer."

The full combination of these and other features now more clearly recited by Applicant's pending Claims is nowhere disclosed by the cited references. As the Examiner readily acknowledged, the primarily-cited Guisinger reference fails to disclose any protective shutdown circuit, much less "a plurality" of them "coupled between the transformer and logic integrated circuit," as Claims 1 and 3 recite. Nor does the secondarily-cited Cullison reference disclose such "plurality" of protective circuits provided in this manner. Cullison's protective measure is triggered by the occurrence of an overload sensed in either of the two bridges 22, rather than in response to an "operational condition" of any "transformer" employed in the given system, as Claims 1 and 3 recite.

It is respectfully submitted, therefore, that the cited Guisinger and Cullison references, even when considered together, fail to disclose the unique combination of elements now more clearly recited by Applicant's pending Claims for the MR3627-3

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purposes and objectives disclosed in the subject Patent Application. The other references cited by the Examiner but not used in the rejection are believed to be further remote from Applicant's claimed apparatus when patentability considerations are taken properly into account.

It is now believed that the subject Patent Application has been placed in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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